

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03130 212150Z
ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EIND, ELAB, CA
SUBJECT: COMMENTS BY CANADIAN AUTOMOBILE WORKERS UNION ON
EMPLOYMENT UNDER THE US-CANADA AUTO PACT

1. CHIEF SPOKESMAN FOR THE CANADIAN AUTOMOBILE WORKERS UNION (UAW), ROBERT WHITE, COMMENTED RECENTLY TO LABATT THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO DIALOGUE WITH UAW OFFICIALS IN THE UNITED STATES ABOUT THE AUTO PACT EXCEPT FOR "SYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING" FROM DOUG FRASER, PRESIDENT OF THE UAW, AND "SYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING" FROM THE UAW-CHRYSLER COUNCIL OVER THE SHUTDOWN OF A TRUCK PLANT IN WINDSOR, ONTARIO. WHITE SAID THAT US AUTO WORKERS WERE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT LOSING JOBS TO SOUTHERN US STATES THAN ANY BUILDUP OF PRODUCTION FACILITIES IN CANADA. WHITE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE TRADE IMBALANCE IN PARTS CANNOT CONTINUE AND THAT HE HAD SPOKEN TO THE PREMIER OF ONTARIO ON JUNE 19 EXPLAINING HIS POSITION.

2. COMMENT: BOB WHITE IS THE YOUNG, BRIGHT LABOR LEADER WHO RECENTLY REPLACED DENNIS MCDERMOTT (NOW PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS) AS DIRECTOR OF THE UAW IN CANADA. APART FROM POSSIBLE POLITICAL USAGE OF "IMBALANCE", INCLUDING EMPLOYMENT UNDER A "FAIR SHARE" CONCEPT APPLIED TO THE AUTO PACT, WHITE CAN BE EXPECTED TO PURSUE MORE
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JOBS FOR CANADIAN AUTOMOBILE WORKERS. HIS MEETING WITH THE PREMIER OF ONTARIO MAY BE A PRELUDE TO MORE PRESSURE ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR GREATER AUTO SECTOR EMPLOYMENT. MEANWHILE, ON JUNE 16, ED BROADBENT, NATIONAL LEADER OF THE NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AGAIN TOOK THE AUTO EMPLOYMENT ISSUE TO THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS WHERE HE STRONGLY CRITICIZED MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE

JACK HORNER OVER THE "LOSS OF 20,000 CANADIAN JOBS".
ENDERS

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Message Attributes

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